

SENATOR SIMON: Let me ask you a question. Now, under the current law under the current provisions can these people get insurance now if they want to pay for it themselves?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SENATOR SIMON: They can? And, that would be through a group insurance policy, correct?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Not through a group insurance policy they would have to buy an individual policy.

SENATOR SIMON: They could get a group policy, couldn't they? As part time employees?

SENATOR GOODRICH: I wouldn't hazard a guess without researching the statutes, I would hazard the guess that if they paid for it themselves they probably could do it if they still qualified.

SENATOR SIMON: Would you hazard a guess as to what type of benefits group insurance has over regular insurance? The fact that they would save money anyway.

SENATOR GOODRICH: About one-third the premium if it is in a group plan as opposed to individual plans.

SENATOR SIMON: So we know right now that people have testified that they are not getting any benefits, but the fact is that because they are part-time employees they are eligible for group insurance, they can buy it themselves and they are able to get it at one-third savings what they would if they are not members of that organization. I maintain that they are getting benefits right now that they can exercise if they want to utilize it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Just two very short statements. Senator Kremer said that there was no opposition in the committee but on the floor of this legislature I think that everybody here can see that there is opposition. The second thing is that Senator Kelly made one of the best statements of all that they usually work for some other company and if you carry two policies you only get on one until it runs out and then the other one will take up the rest. So, you will be paying for duplicate policies and the third thing is that we are going to use the tax payers money or the rate payers money to pay insurance to people that run for a public office to serve for 2, 4, 6, 8 or 10 years and then bow out and somebody else takes over. The best thing to do is kill this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers will you close debate on your motion?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No.

PRESIDENT: No close. The question is shall this bill be indefinitely postponed. Record your vote. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 12 ayes, 19 nays.